GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5268
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Science Express
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced Science Express-climate action special;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the stations covered in each State and total length in kms. it has covered since its launch;

(c) the objectives set/achieved in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to introduce more science expresses in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI.Y. S. CHOWDARY)
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(gÃ‰Ã‰Ã’ Â´Ã‰Ã‰<Ã‡. AÂºÃ‰. SÃ‰Ã‰Ã¨vÃ‰Â®Ã‰Ã’)
(a) Yes Madam.
(b) Science Express is an innovative mobile science exhibition mounted on a 16 coach AC train, which was custom-built for Department of Science and Technology (DST) by Indian Railway. Since its launch in 2007, Science Express has travelled across the country in 8 phases, each of 6-7 months duration, and received 1.56 crore visitors at 455 halts, usually of 2-4 days duration, in its 1602 exhibition days. The focus of initial 4 phases of Science Express was cutting-edge research in science and it was run in association with Max Planck Society, Germany and German Government. In 2011, DST entered into collaboration with the then Union Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) and converted the theme to Biodiversity in line with the organization of United Nations Conference of Parties (COP-11) that was held in Hyderabad in October 2011. After 3 successful runs of Science Express- Biodiversity Special, 'Science Express' was redesigned on the theme 'Climate Change' and the resultant- "Science Express Climate Action Special (SECAS)- was launched on 15 October 2015. It is a collaborative initiative of DST, Union Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), and Department of Biotechnology (DBT). The first phase of SECAS (and eighth successive run of Science Express) got concluded 7 May 2016 after halting at 64 locations in 20 States, covering 19,800 kms. In 204 exhibition days, it was visited by 23.24 lakhs people, primarily student and teachers. Buoyed by the overwhelming response, all the partner agencies decided to run the second phase of SECAS, which is actually the 9th edition Science Express. SECAS was thus re-launched from Delhi Safdarjung on 17 February 2017 and it is scheduled to travel across India till 8 September 2017. It will halt at 68 Railway Stations and cover19000 kms. In this ongoing phase, SECAS has already covered 15 locations till 31 March 2017 and over 3 lakh people have visited it. Of the 16 coaches of SECAS, exhibition in 8 coaches, is exclusively devoted to information, case studies and material related to various aspect of Climate change, the underlying science, impacts, adaptation activities, mitigation solutions and policy approaches in a manner that is easy to understand and interesting for not just school students but also the masses.
The details of Railway Stations covered by SECAS in its first phase in various States along with the schedule of exhibition days are as follows:

Sr. No.	Station	State	Exhibition Dates
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Delhi Safdarjung	Delhi	15 -17 Oct 2015
2.	Sawai Madhopur	Rajasthan	18 Oct 2015
3.	Ranapratapnagar (Udaipur)	Rajasthan	19 -23 Oct 2015
(1)	(2)	(2)	(4)
4.	Bhagat ki Kothi (Jodhpur)	Rajasthan	24 - 25 Oct 2015
5.	Jaisalmer	Rajasthan	26 - 29 Oct 2015
6.	Suratgarh	Rajasthan	30 Oct - 01 Nov 2015
7.	Patiala	Punjab	02 - 04 Nov 2015
8.	Ambala Cantt	Haryana	05 - 08 Nov 2015
9.	Amb Andaura	Himachal Pradesh	09 - 10 Nov 2015
10.	Churaru Takarla	Himachal Pradesh	12 - 13 Nov 2015
11.	Hoshiarpur	Punjab	14 - 16 Nov 2015
12.	Udhampur	Jammu & Kashmir	17 - 20 Nov 2015
13.	Samba	Jammu & Kashmir	21 - 23 Nov 2015
14.	Pathankot	Punjab	24 - 27 Nov 2015

15 Saharanpur UttarPradesh 28 - 29 Nov 2015
16. Haridwar Uttrakhand 30 Nov - 02 Dec 2015
17. Lalkuan Uttrakhand 03 - 05 Dec 2015
18. Pragati Maidan Delhi 06 - 08 Dec 2015
19. Anajmandi (Rewari) Haryana 09 - 11 Dec 2015
20. Agra Cannt UttarPradesh 12 - 14 Dec 2015
21. Shivpuri Madhya Pradesh 15 - 17 Dec 2015
22. Khajuraho Madhya Pradesh 18 - 20 Dec 2015
23. Allahabad UttarPradesh 21 - 24 Dec 2015
24. Basti UttarPradesh 26 - 28 Dec 2015
25. New Jalpaiguri West Bengal 30 - 31 Dec 2015
26. New Bongaigaon Assam 01 - 02 Jan 2016
27. Mariani Assam 04 - 05 Jan 2016
28. New Tinsukia Assam 06 - 07 Jan 2016
29. Lumding Assam 08 - 09 Jan 2016
30. Alipurduar West Bengal 11 - 12 Jan 2016
31. Ambikakalna West Bengal 14 - 17 Jan 2016
32. Barraackpore West Bengal 18 - 21 Jan 2016
33. Jhargram West Bengal 22 - 24 Jan 2016
34. Digha F S West Bengal 25 & 27 Jan 2016
35. Jharsuguda Odisha 29 - 30 Jan 2016
36. Bilaspur Chhattisgarh 31 Jan - 02 Feb 2016
37. Kumhari Chhattisgarh 03 - 06 Feb 2016
38. Koraput Odisha 08 - 10 Feb 2016
39. Vishakhapatnam Andhra Pradesh 11 - 13 Feb 2016
40. Rajahmundry Andhra Pradesh 14 - 16 Feb 2016
41. Guntur Andhra Pradesh 17 - 19 Feb 2016
42. Secunderabad Telangana 20 - 23 Feb 2016
43. Adoni Andhra Pradesh 24 - 26 Feb 2016
44. Kadiri Andhra Pradesh 27 - 29 Feb 2016
45. Vellore Tamil Nadu 01 - 03 Mar 2016
46. Kumbakonam Tamil Nadu 04 - 06 Mar 2016
47. Pudukkotai Tamil Nadu 07 - 09 Mar 2016
48. Rameswaram Tamil Nadu 10 - 12 Mar 2016
49. Tirunelveli Tamil Nadu 13 - 16 Mar 2016
50. Changanaseri Kerala 17 - 20 Mar 2016
51. Palakkad Kerala 22 & 24 Mar 2016

(1) (2) (3) (4)
52. Mangalore Jn Karnataka 25 - 28 Mar 2016
53. Ashokapuram Karnataka 30 Mar - 02 Apr 2016
54. Hospet Karnataka 04 - 05 Apr 2016
55. Wadi Karnataka 06 - 08 Apr 2016
56. Nizamabad Telangana 09 - 11 Apr 2016
57. Butibori Maharashtra 13 - 15 Apr 2016
58. Jalamb Maharashtra 16 - 18 Apr 2016
59. Valsad Gujarat 20 - 22 Apr 2016
60. Anand Gujarat 23 - 25 Apr 2016
61. Patan Gujarat 26 - 28 Apr 2016
62. Hapa Gujarat 29 Apr - 01 May 2016
63. Junagarh Gujarat 02 - 04 May 2016
64. Gandhinagar Capital Gujarat 05 - 07 May 2016

The details of Railway Stations covered by SECAS in second phase in various States along with the schedule of exhibition days are as follows:
Sr.
No. Station State Exhibition Dates
(1) (2) (3) (4)
1. Delhi Safdarjung (Flag off) Delhi 17 Feb 2017
2. Delhi Cantt Delhi 18 - 19 Feb 2017
3. Hisar Harayana 20 - 23 Feb 2017
4. Dhuri Punjab 24 - 26 Feb 2017
5. Taran Taran Punjab 27 - 28 Feb 2017
6. Sri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra J & K 1 - 2 Mar 2017
7. Udhampur J & K 3 - 4 Mar 2017
8. Nangal Dam Punjab 6 - 7 Mar 2017
9. Sirhind Punjab 8 - 10 Mar 2017
10. Chandigarh Chandigarh 12 & 14 Mar 2017
11. Rampur UP 15 - 17 Mar 2017
12. Kasganj City UP 18 - 20 Mar 2017
13. Khalilabad UP 22 - 25 Mar 2017

14. Mau UP 26 - 29 Mar 2017
15 Gaya Bihar 30 - 31 Mar 2017
16. Patna Bihar 1 - 2 Apr 2017
17. Kiul WB 3 - 4 Apr 2017
18. Sitamarhi Bihar 5 Apr 2017
19. Samastipur Bihar 6 Apr 2017
20. Salmari Bihar 7 - 8 Apr 2017
21. Fakiragram Assam 9 - 10 Apr 2017
22. Lumding Assam 11 - 12 Apr 2017
23. Agartala Tripura 13 -14 Apr 2017
24. Badarpur Assam 15 - 17 Apr 2017
25. North Lakhimpur Assam 19 - 21 Apr 2017
26. Rangpara North Assam 22 - 24 Apr 2017
27. Bagdogra WB 25 - 26 Apr 2017
28. Dhanbad Jharkhand 28 - 30 Apr 2017
29. Barrackpore WB 1 - 2 May 2017
30. Kalyani WB 3 - 5 May 2017

(1) (2) (3) (4)
31. Chandil Odhisha 6 - 8 May 2017
32. Bhadrak Odhisha 9, 11 & 12 May 2017
33. Puri Odhisha 13 - 16 May 2017
34. Chatarpur Odhisha 17 - 19 May 2017
35. Kottavalasa AP 20 - 23 May 2017
36. Gudivada AP 24 - 26 May 2017
37. Mirylaguda Telangana 27 - 30 May 2017
38. Gulberga Karnataka 31 May - 2 Jun 2017
39. Kalluru AP 3 - 5 Jun 2017
40. Whitefield AP 6 - 8 Jun 2017
41. Kengeri Karnataka 9 - 11 Jun 2017
42. Koduru Karnataka 12 - 14 Jun 2017
43. Puducherry Puducherry 15 - 16 Jun 2017
44. Attur Tamilnadu 17 - 19 Jun 2017
45. Karur Tamilnadu 20 - 22 Jun 2017
46. Kodaikanal Road Tamilnadu 24 Jun 2017
47. Virudhunagar Tamilnadu 25 - 27 Jun 2017
48. Arumuganeri Tamilnadu 28 - 30 Jun 2017
49. Kayankulam Kerala 1 - 4 Jul 2017
50. Guruvayur Kerala 5 - 7 Jul 2017
51. Kannur Kerala 8 - 10 Jul 2017
52. Vasco Da Gama Goa 11 - 13 Jul 2017
53. Ratnagiri Maharashtra 14 - 17 Jul 2017
54. Mumbai CST Maharashtra 19 - 22 Jul 2017
55. Nasik Road Maharashtra 24 - 26 Jul 2017
56. Murtajapur Maharashtra 27 - 29 Jul 2017
57. Nagpur Maharashtra 30 Jul - 02 Aug 2017
58. Amla MP 3 - 6 Aug 2017
59. Habibganj MP 7 - 9 Aug 2017
60. Bina MP 10 - 12 Aug 2017
61. Khajuraho MP 13 - 14 Aug 2017
(1) (2) (3) (4)
62. Marwar Rajasthan 17 - 18 Aug 2017
63. Balotra Rajasthan 19 - 21 Aug 2017
64. Deesa Gujarat 22 - 24 Aug 2017
65. Bhuj Gujarat 25 - 27 Aug 2017
66. Bhaktinagar Gujarat 28 - 31 Aug 2017
67. Gondal Gujarat 1 - 4 Sep 2017
68. Gandhinagar Capital Gujarat 5 - 8 Sep 2017

(c) The exhibition aboard the Science Express-Climate Action Special (SECAS) conveys a strong message about Climate Change, its possible causes, mitigation and adaptation strategies and so on among not only the students and teachers but also the masses. It creates awareness about the burning issues and offers a platform for dialogue & discussion. At each halt of SECAS, activities are planned to engage visitors across different age groups to reinforce its message. An exciting outreach programme is also conducted in local schools along with several engaging activities on the railway platforms. In addition, informative take-away material is made available for wider distribution amongst schools and visitors. SECAS, since its launch in 2015, has been visited by more than 26 lakh people till 31 March 2016. By the end of the ongoing 2nd Phase of SECAS on 8 September 2017, this train would have travelled over 39,000kms at 132 halts in about 400 exhibition days.
(d) Plans are afoot to run two more such trains.

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